

**From:** jrs@gte.net@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/28/02 6:45pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

The settlement terms as they are now do nothing of substance  
\*except\* to give Federal approval for MicroSoft's illegal behavior  
by stipulation! Microsoft ends up with a 'Get Out of Jail Free card'.

The pressure to cave in from the White House,  
Microsoft and Microsoft's friends must have been tremendous.

It is the belief of the people that if any branch  
of the Federal government will stand fast against backroom  
dealing, it is the Justice department.

The same belief must have been held at DoJ, and perhaps still is,  
but has been and is being crushed by the sheer weight of Microsoft.

Microsoft's contempt for the law and the judiciary is public knowledge,  
but it is as much or more the sheer size of it that threatens the  
very economy of which it is an important component.

This size will stifle innovation and cheat the American people out  
of the best that they might have in the future. But most important  
is that Microsoft's success in the settlement marks the end  
of the government's ability to create and maintain a true free  
marketplace. Other corporations will follow the precedent. And that  
will be the end of our economy as we know it.

Please, please, do what you can to resist this behemoth.

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jrs